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DISPOSITION FORM

TO: Chief, Central Planning Staff
FROM: Support Branch

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PSYCHOLOGICAL
WARFARE

TAB A - Copy of
SWNCC 304

PLANNING DIRECTIVE
NO. 40

TAB B - Staff Study
Propaganda Branch,
WDGS

1. An informal survey of this problem has been completed by the Support Branch. Representatives of State, War and Navy have participated in the informal discussions.

2. It has been discovered that considerable attention is being given to the problem. For example, the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee has appointed an ad hoc committee to study and recommend:

a. A peacetime organization for keeping psychological warfare in a ready-for-mobilization status;

b. A wartime psychological warfare organization; both organizations to be assigned such direction as will insure effective planning, coordination and implementation, particularly with respect to the integration of national psychological warfare with military plans. Attached as TAB A is a copy

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of SWNCC 304 which establishes the ad hoc Committee.

3. In addition, Colonel Dana W. Johnston, Chief, Propaganda Branch, War Department General Staff has prepared a staff study, a copy of which is attached as TAB B, proposing that this Branch be made a special staff division not responsible to the Director of Intelligence, WDGS as provided at present in the War Department reorganization plan of 11 June 1946 and outlining proper functions for an organization concerned with this subject.

4. It is apparent from written reports of the European and Pacific Theatre as well as from informal opinions of those interviewed (a majority of whom participated in World War II psychological warfare efforts) that the problem is not one of primary intelligence concern.

5. The Support Branch has made an informal request to Mr. William Stone, Department of State, steering member of the SWNCC ad hoc Committee that the preliminary report of the Committee be brought to the attention of the Director of Central Intelligence prior to its submission to SWNCC. It was pointed out to Mr. Stone that the interests of the C.I.G. in this subject was based on the following reasons:

a. Historical development of psychological warfare activities in World War I and II which resulted in most cases in the growth of that activity under an intelligence structure.

b. The information aspects of the program inasmuch as the intelligence units are required to furnish material for use in psychological warfare both in peacetime and wartime.

c. The security aspects of the program. The Central Intelligence Group has been given responsibility for the coordination of all matters affecting the security of intelligence sources, methods and operations related to the national security.

6. It is therefore recommended that Planning Directive No. 40 on the subject of psychological warfare be cancelled, as the problem is one which Central Intelligence Group has not primary responsibility or jurisdiction.


Acting Chief, Support Branch

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